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*Tamara Alcaraz*

Tamara Alcaraz

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the application of:

Nobuaki TOMORI et al.

Serial No.: To Be Assigned

Filing Date: Herewith

For: DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND  
DATA MANAGEMENT METHOD

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Box Patent Application  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 2327  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, applicants respectfully request that the following amendment be entered.

## AMENDMENTS

### In the Specification:

On page 1, under BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION, please insert the following paragraph:

#### --CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority to Japanese Patent Application Number 2000-373609 filed December 7, 2000, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. --

## REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendment is respectfully requested. The specification has been amended to provide cross-reference to a related patent application.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 299002053600. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 7, 2001

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